

Llevando el Evangelio a través del Pan y la Tortilla

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As we approach our 12-month anniversary of this project, little has been reported about the network in Chicago that has made the Food Pantry possible. Three churches, St. Chrysostom's,



Wes Smedley, St. Chrys.

Church of the Atonement, & Church of Our Saviour, have funded about one half of the food pantry costs, and the support of their priests, wardens and



Erika Takacs, Atonement

with Treasurer Judy Bross who has made sure funds were collected and sent on time. (This is not as simple



Judy Bross

as it sounds, moving money through four church bureaucracies: from our sponsoring Chicago churches, to our Diocese Treasurer's office, then



Sena Leikvold

to a Diocese of Southeast Mexico account, and finally to Padre Florencio in San Cristobal). Sena Leikvold, Vice-president of the Chiapas

Project, pays all of the weekly bills that support Carlos, weekly taxi fares for Padre Florencio and Carlos, and for special events. Charles Stewart writes this bi-weekly bulletin mainly with the help of Father Florencio, Rubi, parishioners at San Benito and Carlos.

And then, there are many tireless advocates, best exemplified by John Craib Cox. His energy and efforts to tell the story of the Chiapas Project to all who will listen was recognized this past year by being named the inaugural recipient of the Chiapas Project John A. Bross Award for Volunteerism. The last two Bulletins have contained reference to others, non-Chicagoians, who have been stalwart supporters of activities at San Benito and San Mateo across the years, Fran Gamboa (Mexico City), Louanna Furbee and Bob Benfer (Columbia, Mo.). They have become as much a part of our Companionship in Chiapas as any Chicagoian. The success of this Food Pantry project, of course, rests finally in the hands of Father Florencio and the teams of volunteers he has mobilized at San Benito to purchase the bulk food alternate Wednesdays (for 25 weeks, now), repackage it for the families on Thursdays and distribute it on

outreach officers has made it all possible. The Chiapas Project President, Rev. George Hull, Church

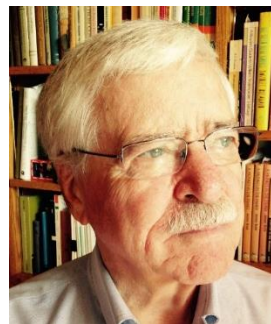


Brian Hastings, COS

of the Holy Comforter, Kenilworth, has been our project manager, working



George Hull, Holy Comforter



Charles Stewart



Fridays (as well as conscientiously photograph most recipients each week so he can send us a visual account of the use of the funds we send). This simple act of giving has, in Louanna Furbee's words, remade the church in San Cristobal during the past year. It has also revived the Chiapas Project churches' commitment to our Companionship with our brothers and sisters at San Benito.



crew who broke the rice, beans, sugar and oil into 42 packets for pick-up this afternoon (right); groceries ready to

This afternoon was the 25th delivery of groceries to families facing food insecurity in the neighborhood of San Benito de Nursia, provided by that congregation with financial support from the Chicago Church of the Atonement, Church of St. Chrysostom, Church of Our Saviour, and friends of the Chiapas Project. Here are some photos of yesterday's preparations: carrying the bulk produce to the church (left); the re-packaging



go (left); and delivery time, a few minutes ago, at the Church of San Benito de Nursia (below). About 800 meals will be provided by the



groceries we together, in Chicago and San Cristobal, have helped to deliver today.